



Heathcote School & Science College

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DearDear Parents/ Carers,



Our Heathcote community is deeply saddened by the death of Queen Elizabeth II. She was a remarkable woman who embodied all that is best in our community. The official days of mourning have now begun and on Monday 19th September, the day of the funeral we have been instructed by the DfE that this will be a bank holiday and that all schools will be closed. To pay our respects as a community we have held a 2-minute silence today at 9am. We have asked the pupils to give us some suggestions on how they would like to commemorate our late Queen.



Despite the very sad news this week, we can report that we have had a wonderful start to the new term. Our new year 7 and 12 have settled in well and have made an excellent start to school life at Heathcote. We have spent additional time in form groups this week to remind and reinforce the school expectations and to provide opportunities to build relationships. We have all been really impressed with how well dressed, organised and polite our pupils are.



I do apologise for the issues that some of you may have experienced at the start of the week with Parentmail and topping up your lunch accounts. I believe these are now resolved but if you experience any further issues please contact the school reception. In the meantime, if you cannot top up the account and you are **not** entitled to free school meals then please ensure that your child has a packed lunch until the issue is resolved.



We are working on getting the Arbor App ready for parents so that you can see all the key information attendance, praise and behaviour. I am hoping this will go live in the next few weeks and details of how to set this up can be found in the parent handbook.



With this letter I have included an updated parent handbook:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ip1vpYUJwe6mQ2dvszhjtNzDZj6pwXcn/edit> which has all the key information that you will need for this year, including key dates for parents evening trips and celebrations. Please see an extract of the handbook attached, with all the key dates for your ease.



I hope to see you all at our 'meet the Senior Leadership Team' coffee afternoon on Thursday 15th September at 4:00pm.



Kind regards

Sonia Close



Headteache

